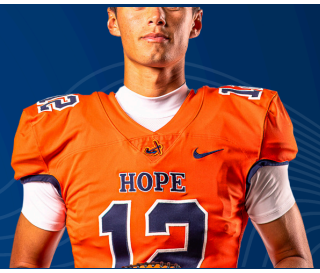
HOPE 2026 FOOTBALL GAME NOTES



GAME 6

GAME 6 | OCT. 17, 2026 | 2:00 P.M. EST | HOLLAND, MI | RAY AND SUE SMITH STADIUM

VS.

HOPE COLLEGE
FLYING DUTCH

Record	5-0 (2-0 MIAA)
Ranking (D3FB/AFCA)	12/11
Last Game	Oct. 3, 2026, @ Olivet; W, 66-17
Head Coach	Peter Stuursma
Record at Hope	79-20 (10th Season)

2026 TEAM AVERAGES

Scoring	44.4
Opp. Scoring	10.2
Rushing Yards	1423
Opp. Rushing Yards	301
Passing Yards	1011
Opp. Passing Yards	822
Total Offense	24.34
Opp. Total Offense	1123
Penalties	25-257
Red Zone Offense (att-scores)	23-25 (21 TD)
Red Zone Defense (att-scores)	6-11 (4 TD)

2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Passing	Alex Thole (78-104, 963 yds, 4 TD)
Rushing	Brody Schuiteman (60 att., 429 yds, 12 TD)
Receiving	Jonny Rohen-Blanton (21 rec, 270 yds, 3 TD)
Tackles	Nolan Vis (26 tot, 22 solo, 4 asst)
Sacks	Joey Mahaney (2.5)
Interceptions	Trenten Bolhouse (1)

ADRIAN COLLEGE
BULLDOGS

Record	2-3 (0-2 MIAA)
Ranking (D3fb/AFCA)	nr/nr
Last Game	Oct. 3, 2026, v. Calvin; L, 17-12
Head Coach	Joe Palka
Record at Olivet	16-9 (3rd season)

2026 TEAM AVERAGES

Scoring	25.0
Opp. Scoring	19.2
Rushing Yards	544
Opp. Rushing Yards	623
Passing Yards	1245
Opp. Passing Yards	1020
Total Offense	1676
Opp. Total Offense	1789
Penalties	39-311
Red Zone Offense (att-scores)	16-21 (12 TD)
Red Zone Defense (att-scores)	7-10 (7 TD)

2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

Passing	Jake Wright (110-152, 1025 yds, 6 TD)
Rushing	Trey Brueggemann (73 att., 331 yds, 2 TD)
Receiving	Braiden Whitaker (54 rec., 559 yds, 5 TD)
Tackles	Bennett Gilde (36 tot., 17 solo, 19 asst)
Sacks	Vincent Iwuagwu (2)
Ints.	Luke Stento (4)



2026 SCHEDULE

Sept. 5	Denison **Big Red**	Deeds Field - Piper Stadium| Granville, OH	W, 28-14
Sept. 12	Wisconsin-Stevens Point **Pointers**	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	W, 38-10
Sept. 19	Hanover **Panthers**	Alumni Stadium | Hanover, IN	W, 27-10
Sept. 26	Albion **Britons**	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	W, 63-0
Oct. 3	Olivet **Comets**	Cutler Field | Olivet, MI	W, 66-17
Oct. 17	Adrian **Bulldogs** (One Big Weekend/Homecoming)	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	2 p.m.
Oct. 24	Alma **Scots**	Bahlke Field | Alma, MI	1 p.m.
Oct. 31	Kalamazoo Hornets	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	1 p.m.
Nov. 7	Calvin **Knights**	Grand Rapids, MI	1 p.m.
Nov. 14	Trine **Thunder** (Senior Day)	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium | Holland, MI	1 p.m.

RESTED AFTER A BYE, FOOTBALL RETURNS TO FACE ADRIAN ON ONE BIG WEEKEND

The second half of the season kicks off for the nationally-ranked and undefeated Hope College football team on home turft against Adrian Colllege. The game is one of the One Big Weekend homecoming and families celebration on campus.

The Flying Dutch bring in a 5-0 record that includes two wins in MIAA play. Hope last played on October 3, riding a 42-point second-half explosion to a 66-17 victory at The University of Olivet.

This is the 84th all-time meeting between Hope and Adrian, a series that dates back to 1938 when the Orange and Blue won, 22-6. The Flying Dutch lead their MIAA rival by a 56-26-1 margin.

Hope carries a three-game winning streak against the Bulldogs. The Flying Dutch won last season's game, 19-17, at Adrian. Caden Balkon kicked a game-winning, 45-yard field with 10 seconds remaining. The second half's only other points came on a safety created by defensive lineman Jake Punches.

A *HOPE WIN* WOULD....

keep the Flying Dutch atop the MIAA standings. Trine University is 3-0 after defeating Albion College, 40-16, on Thursday. Calvin (2-0) hosts Kalamazoo in Week 6.

be the Flying Dutch's 524th all-time victory in program history and their 255th in MIAA play since 1958.

give head coach Peter Stuursma his 80th victory with his alma mater. He would be the fastest Hope football coach to reach 80 wins (in 100 games). Ray Smith, the Flying Dutch'a all-time coaching wins leaders, recorded his 80th victory in his 113th game.



PETER STUURSMA
HC

MEDIA AND CREDENTIALS *INFORMATION*

CREDENTIALS
Single game credentials can be requested by working members of the media by contacting the Hope College Sports Information Department. Website

PARKING
Parking is available for working members of the media on the north side of Ray and Sue Smith Stadium. Please enter off of Fairbanks Avenue near the DeWitt Tennis Center.

INTERVIEWS
Interviews with coaches and student-athletes can be arranged for practices and games through the Hope College Sports Information Department.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY
Photography and videography is allowed at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium. There is no filming allowed inside the dotted lines that surround the field during today's game.

INTERNET
Free internet is provided by Hope College for guests of the college. Search for Hope Guest on your device and use the password hopetransforms to access the internet.

HISTORY

First Season	1902
Seasons	118
All-Time Record	519-376-340
Conference Titles (Last)	23 (2024)

LAST SEASON

2025 Overall Record	9-2
2025 Conference Record	6-1
2025 Home Record	4-2
2025 Away Record	5-0

QUICK *FACTS*

Location	Holland, MI
Founded	1866
Enrollment	3,427 (Fall 2024)
President	Matthew A. Scogin
Athletics Director	Tim Schoonveld
Sports Information Director	Alan Babbitt
Colors	Blue (Pantone) & Orange (Pantone)
Nickname	Flying Dutch
Affiliations	NCAA Division III Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association
Conference Website	https://miaa.org
Ticket Office	616-395-7890

HOPE FOOTBALL COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

Office	616-395-7860
Sports Information Director	Alan Babbitt
Email	babbitt@hope.edu
Sports Information Coordinator	Mackenzie McMahon
Email	mcmahon@hope.edu
Hope Athletics Website	athletics.hope.edu
Facebook	Hope College Football
X	@HopeCollegeFB
Instagram	@hopecollegefb

STADIUM

Football Facility	Ray and Sue Smith Stadium
Capacity	5,300+
Surface	Turf
Year Opened	1979

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Peter Stuursma
Offensive Coordinator & Quarterbacks Coach	Andrew Hawken
Defensive Coordinator & Linebackers Coach	Alex Smith
O-Line Coach & Recruiting Coordinator	Hunter Thompson
Cornerbacks Coach & Special Teams	Jinks Arnold
Wide Receivers Coach	Matt Bird
Running Backs Coach	Jim Caserta
Safeties Coach	KJ Landis
H/Y Coach	Curt Copeland
D-Line Coach	Isaiah Hicks | Jari Brown
Nickels and Sams Coach	Jeremy Gasper
Student Assistants	Ben Adkins, Granden Kinnie

SUPPORT STAFF

Strength & Conditioning Coach	Dan Margritz
Head Athletic Trainer	Erik Byl
Assistant Athletic Trainers	Mariah Supianoski
Managers	Rob Sterken, Andrew Tysse

GAME NOTES

NATIONAL LEADER

Freshman running back Brody Schuiteman is one of four Division III standouts with 12 rushing TDs this season. The school record of 21 rushing touchdowns belongs to Brandan Graham. He matches Bubba Mustain of Merchant Marine, Diante Wilson of Montclair State, and Paul Woodard of East Texas Baptist.

ON THE RUN

The Flying Dutch have established one of the nation's leading rushing attacks, averaging 284.6 yards per game and ranking sixth in NCAA Division III. Three running backs are shouldering the workload:

- Brody Schuiteman, 429 yards on 60 carries
- Troy Goike, 360 yards on 37 carries.
- AJ Martel, 316 yards on 56 carries.

Goike rushed for a career-high 146 yards vs. Olivet.

PAVING THE WAY

Offensively, the Flying Dutch followed their line to a season-high with 66 points and 669 yards of total offense against Olivet, including season-bests with 419 rushing yards. Seven linemen make up the unit's rotation: seniors Tim Clay, Kemper Millis and Philip McLaurin, juniors Nolan Collins, Caleb Fisher, and Nick Saade, and sophomore Aaron Hunt. Hope rushed at 200-plus yards in their last four games since a 147-yard effort vs. Denison.

GOING FOR IT

Hope has been efficient on third down, ranking among the NCAA Division III leaders with a 62.3% success rate (25-43) that is second best in Division III. Led by offensive coordinator Andrew Hawken, the Flying Dutch also ranks 10th in fourth-down success at 83.% (5-6).

SOUNDING DEHORN

Senior Kaden DeHorn set career highs against Denison in Week 1 by totaling 151 yards receiving and six receptions. He opened the game with a 52-yard catch on the first play from scrimmage that set up a 1-yard touchdown run from running back Brody Schuiteman. DeHorn later hauled in 65-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter.



STINGY DEFENSE

Hope's defense has been in lockdown mode to start the season. The Flying Dutch have not allowed an offensive touchdown until the fourth quarter in all four victories against Denison, Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Albion Hanover. Led by first-year defensive coordinator Alex Smith, Hope has given up six total points during the first three quarters over 16 quarters, with Stevens Point and Hanover kicking field goals. The Flying Dutch are allowing 8.5 points per game this season, 16th best in Division III. Hope is yielding 229.8 yards per game, ranking 23rdth in the nation. Hope is also tied for 11th in red-zone defense at 50.0%

DEFENSIVE TOUCHDOWN

Against Albion, senior defensive end Tate Bezeau chased down a fumble forced by safety Tyson Mann in the end zone for the Flying Dutch's first defensive score of the season. Hope ranks third in the MIAA in defensive touchdowns. Alma and Trine each have scored twice on defense this season.

NO MISS FROM VIS

Sophomore linebacker Nolan Vis is flourishing through the season's two weeks, recording a team-best 25 tackles, 22 of which are solo. He posted a team-best 10 tackles against Denison. He has already surpasses his total tackles as a freshman. Vis ranks 25th in Division III at 7.33 solo tackles per game.

MANN UP

Senior safety Tyson Mann set a career-high in tackles against Hanover, recording a team-high eight. He recorded seven solos for a defense that limited the HCAC preseason favorite to a season-low 10 points one week after a winning 43-point effort against Marysville.

2026 INDIVIDUAL SUPERLATIVES

RUSHING

Most Carries: 19, Brady Schuiteman (Hanover)
Most Yards: 121, Brody Schuiteman (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Most TDs: 4, Brody Schuiteman (Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Hanover)
Longest Rush: 46, Brody Schuiteman (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)

PASSING

Most Completions: 20, Alex Thole (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Most Attempts: 25, Alex Thole (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Most TD Passes: 2 Alex Thole (Olivet)
Longest Pass: 65, Alex Thole (Denison)

RECEIVING

Most Receptions: 6, Jonny Rohen-Blanton (Wis.-Stevens Point)
6, Kaden DeHorn (Denison)
Most Yards: 121, Kaden DeHorn (Denison)
Most TD Receptions: 2, Johnny Rohen-Blanton (2)
Longest Reception: 65, Kaden DeHorn (Denison)

DEFENSE

Most Tackles: 10, Nolan Vis (Denison)
Most Tackles for Loss: 2.5, Joey Mahaney (Hanover), Patrick Rowland (Olivet)
Most Sacks: 2, Patrick Rowland (Olivet)
Most Interceptions: 1, Trenton Bolhouse (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)

SPECIAL TEAMS

Most Field Goals: 1, Cooper Clark (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Longest Field Goal: 36, Cooper Clark (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Most Punts: 3, Noah Dunckel (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Best Punting Average: 45.0, Noah Dunckel (Mount Saint Joseph)
Longest Punt: 40.5, Noah Dunckel (Denison)
Punts Inside the 20: 2, Noah Dunckel (Wis.-Stevens Points, Denison)
Longest Punt Return: 19, Connor Knapp (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Quentin Edwards (Olivet)
Longest Kickoff Return: 33, Connor Knapp (Albion)

OPPONENTS

Most Carries: 14, Brian Rager (Denison)
Most Rushing Yards: 68, Brian Rager (Denison)
Most TD Rushes: 1, Brian Rager (Denison)
Longest Rush: 24, Brian Rager (Denison)
Most Pass Completions: 34, Eian Roudebush (Hanover)
Most Pass Attempts: 50, Eian Roudebush (Hanover)
Most Passing Yards: 278, Brian Rager (Denison)
Most TD Passes: 1, three (Stevens Point, Hanover, Olivet)
Longest Pass: 38, Khayne Donalson (Olivet)
Most Receptions: 9, AJ Winders (Denison)
Most Receiving Yards: 92, AJ Winders (Denison)
Most TD Receptions: 1, twice
Longest Reception: 38, Carter Leatherwood (Olivet)
Most Field Goals: 1, Tyler Soldermann (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Longest Field Goal: 39, Tyler Soldermann (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Most Punts: 8, Chcis Bowman (Albion)
Longest Punt: 60, Nick Stoner (Hanover)
Punts Inside 20: 2, Nick Stoner (Hanover)
Longest Kickoff Return: 37, Elijah Eddy (Olivet)
Most Tackles: 10, Paul Morris (Wicson-Stevens Point
Most Sacks: 1, three (Wis.-Stevens Point - twice, Olivet)
Most Tackles for Loss: 3, Dewayne WIlliams (Albion)
Most Interceptions: 1, Jason Gyebl (Hanover), Thomas Hansen (Denison)

GAME NOTES

CAMPBELL TROPHY NOMINEE

Wide receiver Jonny Rohen-Blanton is Hope's College 2026 nominee for the National Football Foundation's WIlliam V. Campbell Trophy® award in college football. The senior business major has been a key contributor on the Flying Dutch's last two NCAA Division III playoff-qualifying teams, earned All-MIAA Second Team accolades last season as well as MIAA Academic Honor Roll distinction for the third time. Selected by the NFF Awards Committee in October, the finalists and the winner are all honored at the NFF Annual Awards Dinner in December at the New York Hilton Midtown in New York City. Each finalist receives an $18,000 postgraduate scholarship as a member of the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Class.

MIAA FOOTBALL ON TV

The Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association is bringing fans closer to the action with the launch of The MIAA Pulse, a new weekly football television program. The 30-minute program will debut Thursday, Sept. 24, at 7:30 p.m. and will provide fans with an in-depth look at MIAA football each week through highlights, expert analysis, exclusive interviews and stories from across the conference. The MIAA Pulse will be available on WXSP-TV, WOOD-TV+, and each MIAA member institution's video platform.

POSTSEASON SUCCESS

Hope started a new tradition during the 2025 season, making back-to-back trips to the NCAA Division III Playoffs for the first time in program history. The Flying Dutch fell to the Universsity of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 9-7, at home at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium after advancing to the third round in 2024.

DEBUT IN 1893

The first recorded Hope College football game kicked off in 1893. Led by head coach Erasmus A. Whitenack, Hope defeated a team from the City of Holland. The score is unknown. Controversy on a national level over the nature of the hard-contact game kept organized football at Hope sidelined until 1902.



AFCA PRESEASON RANKINGS

The Hope College football team debuted in the American Football Coaches Association NCAA Division III Preseason Poll at 19th. The Flying Dutch totaled 351 points in the AFCA poll, the most among four MIAA teams that received votes. North Central College (Illinois), the 2025 national runner-up, topped this season's AFCA poll.

D3FOOTBALL POLL

The Hope College football team kicked off the 2026 season ranked 19th in the D3football.com Top 25, the highest among four MIAA teams that received votes. Hope totaled 173 points. North Central College (Illinois), the 2025 national runner-up, topped the D3football.com Top 25.

MIAA ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL

Thirty-four Hope College football student-athletes made the 2025-26 MIAA Academic Honor Roll:: Braylen Amos, Caden Balkon., Dennis Belmonte, Trenten Bolhouse, Connor Brintnall, Micah Bush, Nolan Collins, Landen Conrad, Noah Dunckel, John Goldie, Owen Graham, Christian Herrema, Wyatt Hicks, Aaron Hunt, Tyson Mann, Austin Martel, Ian McGrath, Phillip McLaurin, Kallon Motter, Travis Myers, Caleb Paarlberg, Jonathan Pittman, Jake Punches, Gavin Reames, Jacob Reynolds, Jonny Rohen-Blanton, Nicholas Saade, Dallas Sauser, William Sternberg, Eli VanderVeen, Nolan Vis, Lorenzo Vitti, Liam Young, and Gavin Zbytowski. The 36th annual Academic Honor Roll consists of athletic letterwinners who maintained a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the academic year. Faculty representatives of the MIAA member colleges administer the academic awards program.

2026 TEAM SUPERLATIVES

OVERALL

Most Points: 66 (Albion)
Fewest Points: 27 (Hanover)
Most Opposing Points: 17 (Olivet)
Fewest Opposing Points: 0 (Albion)
Most Total Offense: 669 (Olivet)
Fewest Total Offense: 66 (Albion)
Most First Downs, Total: 35 (Olivet)
Least First Downs, Total: 16 (Denison)

RUSHING

Most Rushing Yards: 419 (Olivet)
Fewest Rushing Yards: 63 (Hanover)
Most Rushing Yards Allowed: 112 (Denison)
Fewest Rushing Yards Allowed: 68 Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Most Rushing Attempts: 57 (Albion)
Fewest Rushing Attempts: 28 (Denison)
Most Rushing TDs: 7 (Albion)
Fewest Rushing TDs: 2 (Denison)
Most Opposing Rushing TDs: 1 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Rushing TDs: 0 (Wisconsin-Stevens Points)
Most First Downs, Rushing: 15 (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Least First Downs, Rushing: 7 (Denison)

PASSING

Most Passing Yards: 263 (Denison)
Fewest Passing Yards: 115 (Hanover)
Most Opposing Passing Yards: 278 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing Yards: 35 (Albion)
Most Passing Attempts: 25 (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Fewest Passing Attempts: 17 (Albion)
Most Opposing Passing Attempts: 43 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing Attempts: 21 (Albion)
Most Passing Completions: 20 (Wisconsin Stevens Point)
Fewest Passing Completions: 11 (Albion)
Most Opposing Passing Completions: 32 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing Completions: 11 (Albion)
Most Passing Touchdowns: 3 (Olivet)
Fewest Passing Touchdowns: 0 (Albion)
Most Opposing Passing TDs: 1 (Denison)
Fewest Opposing Passing TDs: 0 (Wis.-Stevens Point, Albion)

OTHER

Most Sacks: 8 (Olivet)
Fewest Sacks: None
Most Opposing Sacks: None
Fewest Opposing Sacks: 0 (Denison, Hanover
Most Fumbles Recovered: 1 (Denison)
Most Fumbles Lost: 1 (Denison)
Most Interceptions: 1 (Wis.-Stevens Point)
Most Interceptions Thrown: 1 (Denison)
Most Punts: 3 (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Fewest Punts: 2 (Denison, Albion)
Most Opposing Punts: 6 (Wisconsin-Stevens Point)
Fewest Opposing Punts: 2 (Denison)
Most Penalties: 8 (Stevens Point, Olivet)
Fewest Penalties: 0 (Albion)
Most Penalty Yards: 105 (Stevens Point)
Fewest Penalty Yards: 0 (Albion)
Most First Downs Allowed: 21 (Denison)
Least First Downs, Allowed: 4 (Albion)

GAME NOTES

WEEK 1 RECAP

The big Orange (and Blue) sacked the Big Red to kick off the 2026 college football season on a sweltering, 80-degree Saturday in Granville, Ohio.

The No. 19 Hope College football team powered past Denison University 28-14 behind offensive touchdowns in each quarter and timely defensive stops against the Big Red. The MIAA's unanimous preseason favorite never trailed and overcame two turnovers, including a fumble in the end zone that resulted in a Denison touchdown.

Freshman running back Brody Schuiteman rushed for a game-high two touchdowns, including a game-clinching 46-yard jaunt on fourth down with 4:13 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Defensively, sophomore linebacker Nolan Vis recorded a game-high 10 tackles, including nine solo. The Flying Dutch surrendered 390 yards but forced two turnovers and held Denison to 1-of-4 scoring possessions inside the red zone.

WEEK 2 RECAP

Facing an opponent from a formidable NCAA Division III conference, the nationally-ranked Hope College football team tackled the challenge successfully. The Flying Dutch delivered in all three phases of the game during the Orange and Blue Weekend home opener on Saturday, earning a 38-10 victory against the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point at Ray and Sue Smith Stadium.

It was Hope's second victory against a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference foe in five tries and the first since a 32-20 victory at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville on Sept. 21, 2002. The WIAC has produced six national champions and five national runner-ups this decade.

Sophomore linebacker Nolan Vis recorded a team-high eight tackles. The defense yielded only 162 yards of total offense: 64 on the ground and 98 through the year. Offensively, the Orange and Blue followed their line to a season-high in points and 456 yards of total offense, including a season-best 258 rushing.

WEEK 3 RECAP

On a sweltering afternoon in southern Indiana, the nationally ranked Hope College football team beat the heat and an unbeaten opponent in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association-Heartland Collegiate Conference Crossover. The Flying Dutch powered past HCAC preseason favorite Hanover Col lege, 27-10, on Saturday, using a stout defense and a robust ground game to close non-league play with a 3-0 record.

Led by safety Tyson Mann, the Orange and Blue did not allow an opposing offensive touchdown until the fourth quarter for the third consecutive game despite playing in 90-degree temperatures on artificial turf even warmer. Mann finished with a team-high eight tackles, including one for loss.

Offensively, Hope averaged 6.2 yards per carry while outrushing the Panthers, 261-63. Freshman Brody Schuiteman led the charge with his second consecutive 100-yard game, running for 120 yards and four touchdowns on 19 carries.

It was Schuiteman's second consecutive game with four rushing touchdowns. Schuiteman now has 10 rushing touchdowns this season, ranking him among the NCAA Division III leaders.

WEEK 4 RECAP

Many hands carried the unbeaten Hope College football team to a commanding MIAA opening performance.

Using eight touchdown scorers and 32 tacklers, the nationally ranked Flying Dutch shut out Albion College for the second consecutive season, rolling to a 63-0 victory in front of a sunny Smith Stadium Poster Day crowd of 2,838.

Hope, the MIAA's preseason favorite in the league's coaches poll, racked up a season-high 513 yards of total offense and held the Britons to just 66 yards total.

The Orange and Blue also blanked Albion in consecutive meetings for the first time in the series' 97-game history. Hope won, 62-0, at Albion last season while giving up 81 yards.

MIAA CONFERENCE

2026 STANDINGS

	MIAA	OVERALL
TRINE	3-0	5-1
HOPE	2-0	5-0
CALVIN	2-0	5-0
KALAMAZOO	1-1	2-3
ALMA	1-1	1-4
ADRIAN	0-2	2-3
OLIVET	0-2	3-2
ALBION	0-3	0-6

2026 MIAA PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

1. **HOPE (7 points, 7 1st place)** OLIVET (46)
2. ALMA (15 points)
3. ADRIAN (17 points, 1 1st place)
4. CALVIN (28 points)
5. TRINE (29 points)
6. ALBION (40)
7. KALAMAZOO (42)
8. OLIVET (46)

HOPE FOOTBALL CAREER LEADERS

TOUCHDOWNS

Brandon Graham (1994-1997)	49 TD (all rush)
David Brooke (2004-2007)	48 TD (46 rush, 2 rec)
Mason Opple (2017-2019)	46 TD (45 rush, 1 rec)

RUSHING

Brandon Graham (1994-1997)	4,362 yards
David Brooke (2004-2007)	3,635 yards
Shawn Jackson (2010-2013)	3,289 yards

TOTAL OFFENSE

Phil Butler (2000-2003)	8,810 yards
Jake Manning (2005-2008)	6,855 yards
Mason Opple (2017-2019)	6,765 yards

YARDS PASSING

Phil Butler (2000-2003)	8,510 yards
Jake Manning (2005-2008)	6,930 yards
Michael Atwell (2010-2013)	6,094 yards

PASS RECEPTIONS

Brian Adloff (1997-2001)	211 receptions
Kyle Dietrich (2007-2010)	177 receptions
Taylor Brynaert (2011-2014)	165 receptions





PETER STUURSMA *HEAD COACH*

In 10 seasons, head coach Peter Stuursma '93 has guided the Hope College football team to a 76-20 overall record, including a 49-10 mark in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association games. The Orange and Blue have made three playoff appearances, including in back-to-back seasons for the first time in program history (2024 and 2025).

The Flying Dutch have won three MIAA titles — outright championships in 2024 and 2019 and a co-championship in 2021 — and finished in second place four times during his tenure.

In 2024, Stuursma led Hope to the first 10-0 regular-season in program history and was named both the American Football Coaches Association Region 5 and MIAA Coach of the Year. He also guided the Flying Dutchmen to their first postseason win with a 49-21 second-round victory vs. Aurora Univerity.

Hope recorded the second nine-win season in team history in 2019 when the Flying Dutchmen made their fifth NCAA Division III playoff appearance. Stuursma is Hope's seventh head football coach. He followed Dean Kreps (1995-2015), Ray Smith (1970-94), Russ DeVette (1955-69), Al Vanderbush (1946-54), Bud Hinga (1931-42) and Jack Schouten (1920-30).

Stuursma has deep ties to Hope College and the Flying Dutchmen football program. As a student-athlete, Stuursma served as co-captain for the Hope College football team during his senior season. He was a running back and special teams player. Stuursma received the team's Allan C. Kinney award after the 1992 season despite playing in only three games due to an injury. The award, presented annually since 1971 and named in memory of football player Allan C. Kinney, who died of cancer in his senior year in 1967, honors a senior player for maximum contribution to the football program. As a coach, Stuursma served as the Flying Dutchmen's defensive coordinator during the 1999 season before becoming a teacher and head football coach at East Grand Rapids. Hope claimed a share of the MIAA title in the 1999 season with a 5-1 league record while allowing only 18.1 points per game and scoring 32.6. Stuursma also was Hope's recruiting coordinator that football season as well as an assistant track coach for the 1999-2000 year.

At East Grand Rapids High School, the Pioneers flourished on the field under Stuursma's guidance. His teams went 162-34 with 13 state playoff appearances during his 16-season tenure. They claimed Michigan High School Athletic Association state titles in 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2003, and 2002. They also reached the state semifinals twice. Stuursma was named Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Year in 2008 and High School Football Coaches Association Division 3 Football Coach of the Year in 2010, 2009 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2002. He was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in March of 2020. Stuursma also served as principal at East Grand Rapids Middle School from 2005 to 2016. He was assistant principal at East Grand Rapids High School from 2002 to 2004. He taught social studies and physical education for three years prior to becoming an administrator. Stuursma graduated from Hope College in 1993, completing the secondary teacher education program, majoring in physical education and minoring in social studies. In 1998, he earned a master's degree in physical education / sports administration from the University of Northern Colorado. In 1997, Stuursma worked as a graduate assistant on the NCAA Division II National Champion Northern Colorado football team.

YEAR-BY-YEAR AS HEAD COACH

YEAR	*RECORD*	*NOTES*
2025	9-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2024	11-0-0	1st in MIAA
2023	8-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2022	6-4-0	T-3rd in MIAA
2021	8-2-0	T-1st in MIAA
2020	DNP	Pandemic
2019	9-2-0	1st in MIAA
2018	8-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2017	8-2-0	2nd in MIAA
2016	7-3-0	3rd in MIAA

COACHING STAFF



ANDREW HAWKEN

Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach

Andrew Hawken has served as the offensive coordinator for the Hope College football team since the 2017 season. He also coaches the quarterbacks. From 2017 through 2023, Hawken also coached the H-Backs and tight ends.



ALEX SMITH

Defensive Coordinator and Linebacker Coach

Alex Smith was introduced as Hope College's defensive coordinator on Feb. 12, 2026. After graduating from CMU, Smith went into coaching and has spent the last 11 seasons coaching at the high school level in Michigan.



HUNTER THOMPSON

Offensive Line Coach and Recruiting Coordinator

Hunter Thompson joined Hope College Football as the offensive line coach prior to the 2021 fall season. In February 2022, he moved into a full-time position that included a role as recruiting coordinator.



JINKS ARNOLD

Cornerbacks Coach and Special Teams Coordinator

Jinks Arnold joined the Hope College football coaching staff for the 2023 season. He coaches cornerbacks and serves as special teams coordinator.



MATT BIRD

Wide Receivers Coach

Matt Bird joined the Hope College Football coaching staff prior to the 2022 season as wide receivers coach. Bird brings a winning pedigree to the Flying Dutchmen after serving as head coach at two high schools for 16 seasons and winning 88 games.



JIM CASERTA

Running Backs Coach

Jim Caserta joined the Hope College Football coaching staff for the 2017 season. He coaches running backs. Caserta coached quarterbacks from 2017-2013. Prior to coming to Hope, Caserta coached football at the high school level for 35 seasons in Michigan and Ohio.



KJ LANDIS

Safeties Coach

KJ Landis joined the Hope College football coaching staff prior to the 2024 season as a safeties coach. Landis previously served as defensive coordinator at Grandville High School the past four seasons.



CURT COPELAND

Tight Ends/H Coach

Curt Copeland '03 returned to the Hope College Football coaching staff a tight ends/H-backs coach before the 2026 season.



ISAIAH HICKS

Defensive Line Coach

Isaiah Hicks '25 joined the Hope College Football staff before the 2024 season as a student assistant coach. He was named the defensive line coach before the 2025 season. Hicks played on the defensive line for the Flying Dutchmen for three years.



JARI BROWN

Defensive Line Coach

Jari Brown joined the Hope College Football coaching staff before the 2026 season as a defensive line coach. Brown currently serves as a high school physical education teacher at East Kentwood's freshman campus. He worked as a corrections officer for Washtenaw County in southeast Michigan for 14 1/2 years before pursuing a career in education.



JEREMY GASPER

Nickels and Sams Coach

Drew Peterson joined the Hope College Football staff as the H/Y coach for the 2025 season. Peterson played tight end for four years at Grand Valley State University, totaling 30 receptions for 239 yards and two touchdowns in 48 games (2021-24).

HOPE FOOTBALL *DEPTH CHART*

GAME SIX VS. ADRIAN

OFFENSE

QB	4	Alex Thole	Sr.	5-10	173
	3	Jonathan Pittman	So.	6-2	222
RB	8	AJ Martel	Jr.	5-9	200
	21	Trey Goike	So.	5-9	194
LT	73	Aaron Hunt	So.	6-4	256
	68	Brendan Syrba	So.	6-2	277
LG	56	Kemper Millis	Sr.	6-0	303
	72	Braden Hembree	So.	6-0	294
C	63	Caleb Fisher	Jr.	6-1	290
	74	Mason Irmiter	So.	5-9	282
RG	75	Timothy Clay	Sr.	6-1	260
	71	Phillip McLaurin	Sr.	6-0	278
RT	62	Nick Saade	Jr	6-4	324
	61	Nolan Collins	Jr.	6-2	276
H	40	Seth Luhmann	Sr.	5-11	232
	17	Cameron Peterson	Jr.	5-9	209
WR	1	Eli VanderVeen	Sr.	6-4	221
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
WR	6	Jonny Rohen-Blanton	Sr.	5-9	180
	2	Trevor Griffiths	Sr.	5-10	169
WR	15	Kaden DeHorn	Sr.	6-6	239
	14	Charlie Norton	So.	6-3	200

DEFENSE

DE	43	Tyler Radley	Jr.	6-1	241
	11	Jude Osunaiye	So.	6-1	216
DT	48	Jake Punches	Jr.	6-0	245
	99	Jacob Reynolds	Sr.	6-0	276
DT	69	Tate Bezeau	Sr.	6-1	275
	55	Jayden Libema	Jr.	6-2	266
DE	23	Joey Mahaney	Sr.	6-4	224
	92	Davis Hutt	Fr.	6-2	221
LB	22	Mike Murphy	Jr.	5-10	199
	41	Connor Brintnall	So.	6-0	216
LB	5	Nolan Vis	Sr.	5-11	206
	29	Aidan Decker	So.	6-2	214
LB	12	Dom Cassise	So.	6-3	191
	24	Wyatt Hicks	Jr.	5-9	189
S	25	Trenton Bolhouse	Jr.	6-3	193
	4	Mason Gougis	Jr.	5-11	187
S	9	Tyler Mann	Sr.	6-0	174
	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
CB	13	Austin Harvey	Sr.	5-10	190
	14	Caleb Clinger	Sr.	5-9	166
CB	3	Louis Bosscher	Jr.	6-1	188
	15	Matt Toole	Jr.	6-0	168

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
	89	Avery Umphrey	Fr.	5-11	163
KO	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
	91	Gavin Rabideau	So.	5-11	163
HOLD	6	Jonny Rohen-Blanton	Sr.	5-9	180
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
LS	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
	83	Ian McGrath	So.	5-11	232

P	26	Noah Dunckel	So.	5-11	209
	16	Cooper Clark	So.	6-2	182
KR	0	Connor Knapp	So.	6-1	204
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195
PR	0	Connor Knapp	So.	6-1	204
	10	Liam Young	Jr.	6-0	195

FLYING DUTCH *BREAKDOWN*

HOPE
FLYING DUTCH
5-0, 2-0 MIAA



HEAD COACH
PETER STUURSMA
RECORD AT HOPE: *79-20*

HOPE 2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

PASSING	COMP	ATT	INT	PCT	TD	YPG
ALEX THOLE	78	104	2	75.0	4	192.6

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD	Lg	AVG/G
BRODY SCHUITEMAN	60	429	7.2	12	46	85.8
AJ MARTEL	56	316	5.6	3	25	63.2
TREY GOIKE	37	360	9.7	6	68	72.0

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	Lg	AVG/G
JONNY ROHEN-BLANTON	21	270	12.9	3	36	54.0
KADEN DEHORN	15	223	14.9	1	65	44.6
TREVOR GRIFFITHS	10	176	17.6	0	37	35.2

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG
NOAH DUNCKEL	9	333	37.00

FIELD GOALS	FGM	FGA	%	LONG
AVERY UMPHREY	1	1	100.0	36

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
CONNOR KNAPP	7	34	4.86	0	19

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LONG
CONNOR KNAPP	4	108	27.00	0	33

OPPONENT *BREAKDOWN*

ADRIAN
BULLDOGS
2-3, 0-2 MIAA



HEAD COACH
JOE PALKA
RECORD AT OLIVET: *16-9*

ADRIAN 2026 STATISTICAL LEADERS

PASSING	COMP	ATT	INT	PCT	TD	YPG
JAKE WRIGHT	110	152	4	72.3	6	205.0

RUSHING	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD	LG	AVG/G
TREY BRUEGGEMANN	73	322	4.4	2	21	64.4
TYLER MORGAN	12	60	4.3	1	11	13.0
JAKE WRIGHT	36	43	1.2	1	19	8.6

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LG	AVG/G
BRAIDEN WHITAKER	54	559	10.4	5	58	11.8
RILEY DUNBAR	30	272	9.1	1	39	54.4
QUINN HIRAM	11	115	10.5	0	26	23.0

PUNTING	NO	YDS	AVG
COOPER TRACY	22	927	42.1

FIELD GOALS	FGM	FGA	%	LONG
DAVID GALLIGAN	4	6	66.7	34

PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	TD
XZAVIER RODRIGUEZ	5	80	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	AVG	TD
XZAVIER RODRIGUEZ	7	158	22.6	0